

MINUTES

PLUMBING AND PIPING WORK EXAMINING BOARD

APRIL 10, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Charles Appleby, Sr., Chairperson, at 9:07 a.m. in Room 117 at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present:

Charles Appleby, Sr., Chairperson	Unlimited Contractor
James Piccoli	Unlimited Contractor
Christopher M. Bowman	Unlimited /General Contractor
George C. Sima	Well Drilling Contractor
Hubert J. Barnes	Unlimited Journeyperson
Frank J. DaCato	Unlimited Journeyperson
John R. Damico	Unlimited Journeyperson
Carl W. Schaefer	Public Member
Melissa Sheffy	Public Member
Joyce Topshe	Public Member

Members Absent:

Anthony Calandrino	Unlimited Journeyperson
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Board Vacancies:

One Public Member

Dept. of Consumer Protection:

Richard M. Hurlburt, Director
Karen Layman, Secretary
Anthony Santoro, Esq.
Richard Maloney, Director
Janita Hamel
John Mesner

Dept. of Labor:

Gina Knox

Public present:

Bill Warzecha	Jing Chen	Chad Cramer	
Ken Wallen	Dan Tierney	Ryan Tetreault	Jim Creighton
Morgan Leonard	Sean Merrigan		

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information contact Richard M. Hurlburt, Director at (860) 713-6135 or Fax: (860) 706-1255.

Agency Website: www.ct.gov/dcp Division E-Mail: dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2014 Plumbing and Piping Work Examining Board as written. Board members Melissa Sheffy, Joyce Topshe, James Piccoli, and John Damico abstained.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY

2. Morgan Leonard, E.W. Leonard, Inc.

Mr. Leonard appeared from E.W. Leonard, Inc., a manufacturer's representative firm representing plumbing and heating manufacturers in the New England States area. The company is involved in code development, safety and education. Mr. Leonard stated his concerns regarding safety and liability surrounding the use of PVC in the plumbing and heating trades, and possible alternatives to this product.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Amendments to State Building Code Changes

Daniel Tierney, Office of the State Building Inspector, attended to discuss recent changes in the State Building Code. Mr. Tierney referred to the document entitled History of the State Building Code in Connecticut, which outlines the history of building codes in Connecticut. As of February 28, 2014, there has been an amendment to the 2005 State Building Code. This amendment adopts the 2009 International Residential Code and the 2011 National Electrical Code. Going forward, the 2012 International Plumbing and Mechanical Codes, as well as the 2014 International Residential Code, are expected to be adopted in the fall of 2015. The Office of the State Building Inspector will continue to work with the Board and to educate building officials and contractors through continuing education as changes take place. Further discussion ensued between Mr. Tierney and Board members regarding workplace inspections and the enforcement of licensing.

APPLICANTS APPEARING IN PERSON TO APPEAL DENIAL

Chad Cramer, Sterling, CT – (P-1) Unlimited Contractor – Approved for (P-2)

After discussion with the Board, Mr. Cramer chose to amend license type sought from (P-1) Unlimited Contractor category to a (P-2) Unlimited Journeyman category. The Board voted to approve Mr. Cramer to sit for the (P-2) examination. Board member James Piccoli abstained.

Kenneth Wallen, Middlefield, CT – (P-1) Unlimited Contractor - Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Wallen's (P-1) Unlimited Contractor application due to lack of the required (P-2) Unlimited Journeyman license for a minimum of two years. The Board noted that Mr. Wallen will be eligible for (P-2) in August of 2014 and that he should follow up at that time. Board members Frank DaCato and Hubert Barnes abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Request for exemption pursuant to Sec. 25-133 of Title 25 of the State Well Drilling Board Rules and Regulations

Bill Warzecha and Jing Chen from DEEP appeared to further discuss the request for exemption in relation to the Durham Water Line Project, which was tabled at the March 13, 2014 Plumbing and Piping Work Examining Board meeting in order to request the appearance of representatives from state and local health departments. Ryan Tetreault and Sean Merrigan from DPH were also in attendance with regards to another topic on the agenda today, and were encouraged to participate in this discussion as well.

Mr. Warzecha stated they have contacted Annie Laughlin, project manager for the EPA, who is not in attendance today. Ms. Laughlin, however, has been in contact with DPH Drinking Water Section, and DPH submitted a letter dated April 3, 2014 with their comments on this request for exemption, which was distributed to the Board and discussed. Mr. Warzecha points out that DPH suggests a dose of 50 ppm for chlorination of abandoned wells. He also points out that public water will be available for homes that will be affected and that an ordinance is being drafted to prevent residents from using groundwater in this area for drinking water purposes. That ordinance is being reviewed by the town. There is an exemption that would allow agricultural use of groundwater for irrigation purposes in one or two locations, and the property owner will be responsible for ensuring that the water is safe. Board members expressed their concern over this exception for agricultural use.

Mr. Milardo of the Durham Health Department was also contacted and was not in attendance today, however, his Department's position is stated in an e-mail which was distributed to the Board and discussed.

Board member Hubert Barnes voiced his concern over whether or not this issue relating to health codes is within the scope of the duties of this Board, which is a licensing board. Further discussion took place regarding whether or not this matter falls under the jurisdiction of this Board. The Board voted unanimously that this matter be tabled until the Board receives information from their attorney as to whether or not this Board is allowed to act on this Durham Water Line Project at this time.

Mr. Warzecha reiterated that DEEP and EPA's position is that, if an exemption can be allowed for no chlorination, that would be their preference. However, based on the suggestions outlined in the correspondence reviewed today, it would be appreciated if the Board would consider a dose of 50 ppm of chlorination, versus 150 ppm.

2. Raised S.B. Bill No. 412 – An Act Concerning the Enforcement of Certain Occupational Licensing Statutes

The Board reviewed this document and a discussion took place regarding how this bill would affect the enforcement of trade licensing.

3. Residential sprinkler system licensing requirements

Board member James Piccoli had attended the January 14, 2014 Fire Sprinkler Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board meeting and stated that this Board requested a meeting between the Plumbing and Piping Work Examining Board and the Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board to discuss this topic. DCP will check on the availability of conference rooms and contact both Boards to arrange a date.

NEW BUSINESS

1. General Permit for the Discharge of Low Flow Water Treatment Wastewater Issued on January 30, 2014

James Creighton (DEEP) and Ryan Tetreault and Sean Merrigan (DPH) attended to review some of the basic points surrounding the General Permit for the Discharge of Low Flow Water Treatment Wastewater. This permit addresses the discharge of backwash from water treatment systems on residential and small commercial properties. A lengthy discussion took place to address the Board's concerns, including properties without enough horizontal distance to meet requirements and cross-contamination.

Ryan Tetreault is in the process of a generating circular letter which will go out to all local directors of health and chief sanitarians to inform them of the existence of this general permit. It is agreed that communication between building officials and local health departments is important while these systems are being installed. It is also important to inform contractors who will be installing these systems through continuing education, and that the proper recordkeeping and filing of permits is monitored.

2. DCP Trade Practices Division Update

Introduction of John Mesner:

Richard Maloney, Janita Hamel, and John Mesner from Trade Practices appeared. Richard Maloney introduced DCP's newest inspector, John Mesner, and the Board welcomed him.

Report on current case:

Trade Practices reported on an open case involving an unlicensed individual using a deceased family member's P-7 credential to work within the family business. They requested that this individual come before the Board to discuss this situation further. The Board voted unanimously to allow him to come in and meet with the Board for further discussion. The Trade Practices Division will arrange for this to take place at the next Board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. P-2 Plumbing Apprenticeship - Related Instruction Credit Award

The Board so noted.

2. Continuing Education Evaluation Forms

The Board so noted.

3. Letter to Construction Education Center dated March 24, 2014

Board member Melissa Sheffy has researched continuing education class evaluations from classes held at CEC and reported on her findings.

4. Substitute Bill No. 5299 – An Act Concerning the Findings of the Military Occupational Specialty Task Force

The Board reviewed this document. Richard Hurlburt provided the following update for the Board: There is currently a working draft which states that the license examination will NOT be waived, and that anybody with a military background up to two years can have their credentials reviewed by the Department of Labor, Apprenticeship Division, and this agency will evaluate how much credit will be received.

DCP COMPLAINT STATUS REPORT

The Board reviewed the current complaint status report provided by the Trade Practices Division.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS FROM ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY

None

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Layman,
Board Secretary

2014 Meeting Schedule:

- **May 8, 2014**
- **June 12, 2014**
- **July 10, 2014**
- **August 14, 2014**
- **September 11, 2014**
- **October 9, 2014**
- **November 13, 2014**
- **December 11, 2014**

Meetings will take place at 9:00 a.m. in Room 117 at Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut